

If the code requirements were dropped for HF amateur licensing and operations, Homeland Security might be enhanced because more licensees would study and obtain General Class licenses. They would purchase their own equipment and become practiced in its use and in the effective use of HF bands. The HF bands are particularly useful after disasters when local repeaters and line-of-sight VHF and UHF equipment cannot reach outside the disaster area. HF can provide the link to help hundreds, even thousands, of miles away from disasters. I urge repeal of the code requirement for the General License.